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REMARKS**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph**

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph, stating "It is unclear as to whether the density range is with respect to the actual, physical properties of the glass strand, or the tightness of the glass strand disposed within the container." As remarked by the Examiner the density range claimed is to the texturized, coiled form of the glass. As stated on page 8 of the Specification, lines 8-10, "[t]he following ranges of dimensions are provided for an exemplary texturized strand embodying the principles of the invention: density of texturized strand in container = 5 to 10 lbs/ft³ (80 to 160 kg/m³)"

In response to this rejection, Applicants have amended claim 15 to recite that the "glass strand in said texturized, coiled form has a density of 5 to 10 lbs/ft³." Thus, it is submitted that claim 15 (as amended) as well as claims 16-18, which depend therefrom particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regards as the invention and is therefore submitted to be in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

(1) On pages 3-4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,569,471 to Ingemansson ("the '471 Patent). The Examiner states that the '471 Patent "discloses glass strands fed into a muffler outer cylinder 14. The muffler outer cylinder is considered a container. As the strands are fed, they are blown by a nozzle causing the threads to blow apart to form a wool-like texture"

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection in view of the following remarks. Claim 15, as amended, recites "a container having a removable closure" and "a glass strand disposed in said container in a texturized, coiled form, wherein said glass strand can be withdrawn from said container for subsequent use when said closure is removed" (emphasis added). Applicants respectfully submit that the '471 Patent does not disclose or suggest either the "removable closure" or the ability of the strand to be "withdrawn from said container for subsequent use when the closure is removed."

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In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that there is no motivation for one of skill in the art to arrive at the invention recited in claim 15 based on the teachings of the '471 Patent. To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, there must be some motivation, either within the reference or in the knowledge of those of skill in the art, to modify the reference or combine the references' teachings, there must be a reasonable expectation of success, and the prior art references must meet all of the claim limitations. (See, e.g., *Manual of Patent Examining Procedure*, Patent Publishing, LLC, Eighth Ed., Rev. 3, August 2005, §2142). One of ordinary skill in the art simply would not be motivated to include a removable closure and the subsequent removal of the texturized strand from the container by reading the '471 Patent. The '471 Patent teaches the installation of the glass strand into a final product (a muffler), and there is no teaching or suggestion of removal of the texturized glass from the muffler for subsequent use. The recycling of glass strand from within a muffler, as suggested by the Examiner, does not provide motivation to modify the '471 Patent or provide any reasonable expectation of success. Therefore, Applicants submit that a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established.

(2) On Pages 4-5 of the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 15-17 as being unpatentable in view of the '471 Patent and U.S. Patent No. 3,398,877 to Mattis ("the '877 Patent"). The '877 Patent discloses the storage of crimped polymer fibers that are "piddled" into a paperboard carton that is lined with a polymeric film liner (see Column 1, lines 25-27 and Column 2, 10-11). The crimped fibers are not texturized as recited in claim 15. The crimping process disclosed by the '877 Patent is a mechanical process that results in a fiber block having a density of at least 22 lbs/ft³ and preferably 25-35 lbs/ft³. In contrast, the present invention as recited in claim 15 provides a texturized fiber. As described by Applicants a texturized strand is "expanded by directing compressed air at the strand as it passes through a texturizer to separate the filaments in the strand. This concept is also referred to as 'texturizing' the strand." (See, Specification Page 4, lines 30-35). Applicants submit that it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the crimped polymer fiber package having a density of at least about 22 lbs/ft³ of the '877 Patent with the muffler filled with texturized glass fibers disclosed in the '471 Patent to obtain the container having a removable closure with a texturized said glass strand having a density of 5 to 10 lbs/ft³ as recited in claim 15.

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(3) On Pages 5-6 of the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner rejects claim 18 as being unpatentable over the '471 Patent, the '877 Patent, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,670,949 to Galanes ("the '949 Patent"). The '949 Patent is relied upon to teach a corrugated material suitable for use as a container. Applicants submit that the disclosure of a corrugated material does not correct the defects of the underlying combination of the '471 Patent and the '877 Patent as discussed above.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the present invention is not taught or suggested within the '471 Patent, the '877 Patent or the '949 Patent either alone or in any proper combination, and respectfully request that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

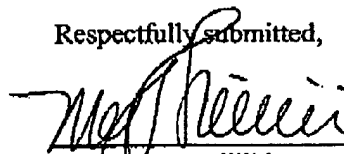
CONCLUSION

In light of the above, Applicants believe that this application is now in condition for allowance and therefore request favorable consideration.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this response, including any fee for a required extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for which Applicants hereby petition, please charge all necessary fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0568.

Respectfully submitted,


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